

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:44 AM
To: Plecas, Bobbi PREM:EX
Subject: Playground NR
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V5.docx

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:28 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V6
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V6.docx

Wanna clean this up and resend? Many thanks.

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:39 AM
To: 'Brown, Colin'
Subject: RE: March 17th

Hi Colin,
We're aiming for this one to last no longer than 20 minutes.

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

From: Brown, Colin [<mailto:colin.brown@vicpd.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:01 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: March 17th

Hi Tasha,

How long will the event at the courthouse go on Monday?

Thanks,

Colin



S/Sgt. Colin Brown #221
Community Services Division
Victoria Police Department
850 Caledonia Avenue
Victoria, BC, V8T 5J8

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Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Plecas, Bobbi PREM:EX
Subject: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V6
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V8.docx

Hi Bobbi,
Quote for Larry's review, thanks.

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:58 AM
To: Chen-Mack, Betty JAG:EX
Subject: RE: RSVP for playground event tomorrow

Super, thanks Betty.

From: Chen-Mack, Betty JAG:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RSVP for playground event tomorrow

I will try to attend the Victoria courthouse playground event tomorrow morning. Thanks.
Cheers!

Betty Chen-Mack, M.Arch B.I.D.
Executive Director, Facilities Services Division,
Corporate Management Services Branch, Justice & Public Safety Sector
5-910 Government, Victoria, BC
p. 250 356-7159, c. 250 415-8298

CMSB Striving to be:
An outstanding service provider
A great place to work

{please be green with this email content}



Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:49 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: MA for Victoria - this morning

good

From: Horlor, Shannon GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:47 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: MA for Victoria - this morning

Here are your finals for review. Upon approval, we'll set this up to go at 11:15 a.m. to Victoria media and the gallery.

Shannon

March 16, 2017

MEDIA ADVISORY – Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services – Victoria

VICTORIA – Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services Minister Amrik Virk will be joined by a team of volunteers to assemble and install equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse.

Event Date: Friday, March 17, 2017

Time: 9 a.m.

Location:
Victoria Courthouse property
850 Burdett Ave.
Victoria

Special Instructions: Guests are advised to wear closed-toe shoes or appropriate footwear for a construction site.

Contact:
Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services
250 893-5650

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:36 AM

To: GCPE Editors
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: MA for Victoria - this morning

Hi all- attached is a media advisory for the Victoria area and gallery reporters for the assembly of a new playground.
Please send out asap this morning. Thanks, Melody

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: SN_Victoria_Courthouse_Playground_Mar 2017 V2
Attachments: SN_Victoria_Courthouse_Playground_Mar 2017 V2.doc

Can you make the font larger – 26 font.

Melody – can we get a call together today to go over any last minute things...thinking with Lorne, Jon, Ryan, Graeme?
2:30pm?

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Notes for Tomorrow
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_V8 2.pdf

Hi change to afghan para....quote input still to come.

-----Original Message-----

From: Plecas, Bobbi PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:27 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Notes for Tomorrow

Please seen the attached.

s.13

Bobbi

-----Original Message-----

From: Joseph E.L. Gollner [<mailto:s.22>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Plecas, Bobbi PREM:EX
Subject: Notes for Tomorrow

Hello Bobbi,

Thanks for the opportunity to review the paragraph referring to our memorial. Please see the colour highlighted paragraph. I changed the occasional word but then brought the conclusion of the paragraph into alliance with our wording on the memorial which we use as a theme in our advertising.

Cheers Larry

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:33 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX; Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Playground tweets

Only suggestion is to say...opening this spring. So folks don't think they can play on it tomorrow.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:30 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Playground tweets

Here's some draft tweets for MAV:

New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today! Thx to the volunteers & donors [url]

A new playground comes to life today @ Victoria Courthouse as equipment is put together [url]

New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids [url]

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Good. Housing saw the NR, yes? When we asked about a quote, right?

-----Original Message-----

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:23 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

This is good with me. If good with you - I will finalize and send around a final package to MNGD and JAG, as well as print copies for event tomorrow. Thx - Jo

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Boudreau, Marc GCPE:EX; Carruthers, Dana GCPE:EX; Chant, Jon GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

For your review -

And then to go at 9:20 Friday morning, to the Gallery and Greater Victoria.

If we need to chat, please call my Berry 250 882-8673. I am on call this evening.

Linda Stagg

Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX [mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Subject: DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved

NR Type: News Release

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: March 17, 2017 at 9:20 am No Lead Organization

Headline: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved

March 17, 2017

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

NEWS RELEASE

Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

VICTORIA - A team of volunteers and public servants are pitching in to assemble a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse today, creating a fun and interactive play space in the heart of Victoria for people of all ages to enjoy.

The playground assembly team includes members of the B.C. public service, Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community, Our Place, and former tent city campers.

The 540 square-metre (5,800 square-foot) playground will include equipment chosen by children attending Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools, and will include swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area and a spinning globe. The redesigned property will feature chess tables, benches and a rubberized safety surface with artistic designs.

The space will include a permanent monument to Canadian Afghanistan veterans. The memorial is a project financed by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project Society, which is currently fundraising to create this memorial. The memorial will be dedicated to all Canadians who served in Afghanistan. It will recognize the families and loved ones of those who served and those who returned with physical and mental wounds, while honouring those Canadian Armed Forces and Public Service of Canada members who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Habitat Systems Incorporated will be on site to guide volunteers through the installation and will conduct a safety inspection following its assembly. For easy assembly, all tools required for the day, including levels, hammers, hand drills, nails and shovels, will be supplied.

A generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has contributed \$150,000 toward the cost of the playground equipment. Tire Stewardship B.C. has donated \$80,000 toward the rubberized safety surface. The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services has contributed an additional \$50,000 toward the playground.

A playground emerged as the most-popular choice for the block-wide site during discussions with neighbours. The playground is expected to be ready to open to the public this spring, once the rubberized safety surface is poured and landscaping is completed.

Quotes:

Amrik Virk, Minister of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services -

"I would like to thank today's volunteers and acknowledge the generosity of our donors who have contributed towards revitalizing the Victoria Courthouse site. Today is about giving back and creating a safe public space and playground that the community can enjoy."

Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice -

"I'm delighted to see the former lawn of the Victoria Courthouse be transformed into a vibrant new public playground for the neighborhood and for people of all ages to enjoy. The design of the space is more open, allows more light into the property and enhances public safety - and this is a great thing for both the courthouse and this fantastic new playground."

BGen (Rtd) Joseph E. L. Gollner, OMM, CD, president, Greater Victoria Afghan Memorial Project Society -

"We are proud of what this memorial represents, as a permanent tribute to honour the brave Canadians who died in the service of their country. This serves as a central location for this important memorial, surrounded by the joy of children at play, their families and the strength of community."

Don Evans, executive director, Our Place -

"It's wonderful to see some of the people who were once homeless returning today to help build this community playground. It truly shows how having access to proper housing, health care and opportunity can transform lives and instill that desire to give back."

Stuart Hall, Head, Christ Church Cathedral school -

"This new park and playground will be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood. This park has been designed to serve all ages, from children to seniors, and has the real potential to be a friendly gathering place for the whole community. With so many new families moving into the area, it will be well used. The students of Cathedral school were delighted to be consulted with and are keen to try out their favourite equipment."

Quick Facts:

* Consultations for redeveloping the site included local residents, the YMCA, the Christ Church Cathedral and students at Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools.

* Landscaping will feature 17 new trees, including two maidenhair, one southern catalpa, two Raywood ash, six eastern redbud and six Kwanzan cherry trees.

* In 2015-16, the B.C. government spent close to \$5 million to provide housing and shelter for residents of the Victoria courthouse encampment.

* In 2016-17, the Province will spend approximately \$28 million, which includes capital costs for the Central Care Home, as well as the Super 8 hotel. This includes \$373,000 to Portland Hotel Society (PHS) Community Services for support and outreach services at the encampment site between April and August 2016.

* As of January 2017, more than 260 people from the Victoria courthouse camp are housed at four different housing projects in the region.

* To date, approximately 80 people from the courthouse encampment have moved into permanent housing.

Learn More:

For more information about the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society and its campaign to raise funds to create a memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans: <https://vicaafghanistanmemorial.ca/>

Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:31 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Great. Jo can you please send up a final package to MO?

-----Original Message-----

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:30 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Yes, on Monday and the final has their changes.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

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Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250.387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

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Subject: DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

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March 17, 2017

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

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Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
 Communications Manager
 Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
 250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:43 PM
To: 'Danielle St. Jacques'
Cc: 'Colleen Mycroft'
Subject: RE: Mayor Helps

Hi Danielle, sorry the mayor is unable to join us. Thank you for passing her message along. ☺
Tasha

From: Danielle St. Jacques [<mailto:dstjacques@victoria.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:39 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Colleen Mycroft
Subject: Mayor Helps

Good afternoon Tasha,

Thank you for the invitation for Mayor Helps to attend the start of the assembly of equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse tomorrow. Regrettably Mayor Helps is unable to attend as she will be out of the office that day. Mayor Helps sends her appreciation for all the work you're doing and wishes you best of luck for your event. Thank you again and have a lovely afternoon.

Kindly,
Danielle.

Danielle St. Jacques
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC V8W 1P6

T 250.361.0597 F 250.361.0248



Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:41 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

We are going to change the playground cost to \$50K and not take on the donor amounts since it's not from our budget.

We'll go with \$760K

Also – we don't want to include housing costs in the total for the camp...this is the most recent tally we got...should still be good?

- In addition to providing housing, provincial costs associated with managing the encampment site were allocated for things such as security, garbage collection, port-a-potties and upkeep, fire extinguishers, gravel, water hookup/service, power pole installation, BC Hydro service, fencing and site demolition. These costs totalled approximately \$1.3 million between December 2015 and October 2016.

From: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:36 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Breakdown below.

Add - Security + fencing @\$60,000 monthly x 8 months (aug-march 2017) = \$480k

From: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:33 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Hi Lorne

\$1M includes: Playground (\$289K), Remediation (\$350K), Landscaping (\$223K), Landscape Architect (\$52K), WSI Project Mgmt (\$49K).

Not included:
Monthly security and fence rental has been \$60,000/mth since August.

Hope this helps.
Graeme

From: Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:58 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX

Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Two quick questions: playground

Hi Melody, answers to your questions below in blue.

Ryan Lush | Team Lead - Project Administrators | Asset Management Branch
Ph: 250 893-9844 | **e:** Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca | PO Box 9412, Stn Prov Gov, Victoria BC V8W9V1



REAL PROPERTY DIVISION
DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY,
INNOVATION AND CITIZEN SERVICES

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:42 AM
To: Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: Two quick questions: playground

I have two more questions for you on the playground, then our materials will be ready for the MO. Please let me know the answers. Thx! M

1. Had any other groups come forward requesting a similar memorial in this space and if so, why was this one chosen? I'm assuming no other requests were made, please confirm. There were no other memorials requested to go in that space.

2. **What is the estimated budget of the playground?**
 - The total cost of the playground is approximately \$280,000.
 - We have received \$230,000 in donations that will go towards the costs of the playground. The ministry has contributed an additional \$50,000.
 - The total cost of fully restoring the greenspace, including soil remediation and installation of a playground will be around \$1 million. How do we get to \$1M? Does that include landscaping and additional things like the memorial pad? \$1M includes: Playground (\$289K), Remediation (\$350K), Landscaping (\$223K), Landscape Architect (\$52K), WSI Project Mgmt (\$49K). The landscape architect and WSI project management are really a part of the overall project, so I don't know that they're work mentioning separately. They could both be reasonably rolled into the Landscaping cost.

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:52 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: Re: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Thanks - were you able to shift your schedule?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 16, 2017, at 4:49 PM, DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX <Lorne.DeLarge@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Looks good.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:42 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

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Ryan Lush | Team Lead - Project Administrators | Asset Management Branch
Ph: 250 893-9844 | **e:** Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca | PO Box 9412, Stn Prov Gov, Victoria BC V8W9V1
<image001.png>

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Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: Two quick questions: playground

I have two more questions for you on the playground, then our materials will be ready for the MO.
Please let me know the answers. Thx! M

1. Had any other groups come forward requesting a similar memorial in this space and if so, why was this one chosen? I'm assuming no other requests were made, please confirm.
There were no other memorials requested to go in that space.

2. **What is the estimated budget of the playground?**
 - The total cost of the playground is approximately \$280,000.
 - We have received \$230,000 in donations that will go towards the costs of the playground. The ministry has contributed an additional \$50,000.
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Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:05 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Great, see you tomorrow.

From: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Yes - I will be there.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:52 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: Re: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Thanks - were you able to shift your schedule?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 16, 2017, at 4:49 PM, DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX <Lorne.DeLarge@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Looks good.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:42 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

We are going to change the playground cost to \$50K and not take on the donor amounts since it's not from our budget.

We'll go with \$760K

Also – we don't want to include housing costs in the total for the camp...this is the most recent tally we got...should still be good?

- In addition to providing housing, provincial costs associated with managing the encampment site were allocated for things such as security, garbage collection, port-a-potties and upkeep, fire extinguishers, gravel, water hookup/service, power pole installation, BC Hydro service, fencing and site demolition. These costs totalled approximately \$1.3 million between December 2015 and October 2016.

From: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:36 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Breakdown below.

Add - Security + fencing @\$60,000 monthly x 8 months (aug-march 2017) = \$480k

From: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:33 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Hi Lorne

\$1M includes: Playground (\$289K), Remediation (\$350K), Landscaping (\$223K), Landscape Architect (\$52K), WSI Project Mgmt (\$49K).

Not included:

Monthly security and fence rental has been \$60,000/mth since August.

Hope this helps.

Graeme

From: Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:58 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Two quick questions: playground

Hi Melody, answers to your questions below in blue.

Ryan Lush | Team Lead - Project Administrators | Asset Management Branch
Ph: 250 893-9844 | **e:** Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca | PO Box 9412, Stn Prov Gov, Victoria BC V8W9V1
<image001.png>

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:42 AM
To: Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
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Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX; Burbee, Jon MTIC:EX; Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX; Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_FINAL.pdf; QA_Victoria_Courthouse Playground Opening Mar 17 FINAL.docx

Revised QA (costs)

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:05 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX; Burbee, Jon MTIC:EX; Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX; Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground

Finals for tomorrow's event at the Victoria Courthouse Playground. The News Release will be handed out after the Minister gives remarks and will be issued via newswire service at 9:20 a.m. Not for further circulation prior. Thx much - Jo

In terms of media expected:

- Canadian Press: Dirk Meissner will be there
- CTV: will be there
- CFAX 1070: interested
- 100.3 the Q: interested
- Times colonist: hoping to have someone at the event
- CHEK TV: will have a camera at the event
- CBC Victoria (Dave Biro): interested

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Playground tweets

Can you do me a favour and put the owly link into these for me? Merci.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Playground tweets

Revised.

Characters: 120
New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today, opening for kids this spring. Thx to the volunteers & donors
[url]

Characters: 123
A new playground comes to life today @ Victoria Courthouse as equipment is put together. Opening to the public this
spring [url]

Characters: 119
New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids. Opening this
spring [url]

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:04 AM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Playground tweets

Cheers!

From: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:57 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Playground tweets

Characters: 137
New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today, opening for kids this spring. Thx to the volunteers & donors
ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY

Characters: 126 (had to shorten to fit under 140)
A new playground comes to life today @ Victoria Courthouse as equipment is put together. Opening this spring
ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY

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New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids. Opening this
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Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:04 AM
To: Facey, Nick MTIC:EX; La Forge, Jessica MTIC:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: Playground tweets

Characters: 137

New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today, opening for kids this spring. Thx to the volunteers & donors
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Characters: 136

New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids. Opening this spring ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Craig, Don GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Howard, Chelsea GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Courthouse Pics

Tasha, they will be available in 2 minutes.

DON CRAIG

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Photographer + Designer

T: 250 356-7396

M: 250 217-4223

4th floor, 617 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

[Government photos](#)

From: "Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX" <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 at 10:50 AM
To: "Craig, Don GCPE:EX" <don.craig@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Courthouse Pics

Hey Don,

Is it you that posts pics to Flickr or should I check in with Chelsea Howard? We have some requests from media for photos so thought I'd try to figure out when those might go up?

Thanks for coming to our little event. ☺

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: New playground at Victoria Courthouse

Thx Melody – will forward photos as soon as we get them in today.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Fwd: New playground at Victoria Courthouse

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Victoria News Editor <editor@vicnews.com>
Date: March 17, 2017 at 8:55:00 AM PDT
To: "Wey, Melody GCPE:EX" <Melody.Wey@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: New playground at Victoria Courthouse

That would be great if you could send photos. We are quite swamped today.

On Mar 16, 2017, at 2:57 PM, Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
<Melody.Wey@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Pamela- thought I'd flag this for you, a team volunteers will be putting together the playground equipment tomorrow for the new playground at the Courthouse. Should be a great event for visuals- equipment includes swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area and a spinning globe. Will someone at Vic News will be able to make the event? I'd be happy to send along photos if you're not able to make it, just let me know.

Thanks, Melody

-----Original Message-----

From: Government of British Columbia
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:54 AM
Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY - Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services - Victoria

March 16, 2017

**MEDIA ADVISORY - Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens'
Services - Victoria**

VICTORIA - Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services Minister Amrik Virk will be joined by a team of volunteers to assemble and install equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse.

Event Date: Friday, March 17, 2017

Time: 9 a.m.

**Location:
Victoria Courthouse property
850 Burdett Ave.
Victoria**

Special Instructions: Guests are advised to wear closed-toe shoes or appropriate footwear for a construction site.

**Contact:
Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650**

**Pamela Roth
Victoria News Editor
250-480-3265
818 Broughton St.
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1E4
editor@vicnews.com**

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Camille Musson
Cc: Lisa Schmidt
Subject: Re: Victoria Courthouse Files

Thanks, Camille! Appreciate it.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 17, 2017, at 10:03 AM, Camille Musson <cmusson@habitat-systems.com> wrote:

Hello Tasha,
Here are the files you have requested:
[Victoria Courthouse Files](#)
Please let me know if you need anything else!
Thank you,
Camille Musson
Client Services and Marketing Associate | IT

Habitat Systems Inc.
Tel: (604) 294-4224 | Fax: (604) 294-4002
Toll Free: 1-866-HABITAT (422-4828)

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Camille Musson <cmusson@habitat-systems.com>
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:03 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Lisa Schmidt
Subject: Victoria Courthouse Files

Hello Tasha,

Here are the files you have requested:

[Victoria Courthouse Files](#)

Please let me know if you need anything else!

Thank you,

Camille Musson
Client Services and Marketing Associate | IT



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Tel: (604) 294-4224 | Fax: (604) 294-4002
Toll Free: 1-866-HABITAT (422-4828)



Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: lisa@habitat-systems.com
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Video Files

I am currently attending the Victoria Courthouse playground installation. I will be^{s.22}
of an urgent nature, please call my cell @ 604.347.5701. I will be checking email periodically.

If this is

Thank you & enjoy the day,
Lisa A. Schmidt

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 7:30 AM
To: McKinnon, Anne MTIC:EX
Subject: Fwd: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Morning,

This is going out at 9am. Some ministry staff and stakeholders are working to put the playground eqt together today, all day, at the Victoria courthouse where the tent city was.

There will be a society lead fundraising campaign to raise money for a memorial to Afghan war veterans.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX" <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
To: "Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX" <Joanne.Whittier@gov.bc.ca>, "DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX" <Lorne.DeLarge@gov.bc.ca>, "Burbie, Jon MTIC:EX" <Jon.Burbie@gov.bc.ca>, "Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX" <Graeme.Sykes@gov.bc.ca>, "Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX" <Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground

Revised QA (costs)

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:05 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX; Burbie, Jon MTIC:EX; Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX; Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground

Finals for tomorrow's event at the Victoria Courthouse Playground. The News Release will be handed out after the Minister gives remarks and will be issued via newswire service at 9:20 a.m. Not for further circulation prior. Thx much - Jo

In terms of media expected:

- Canadian Press: Dirk Meissner will be there
- CTV: will be there
- CFX 1070: interested
- 100.3 the Q: interested
- Times colonist: hoping to have someone at the event
- CHEK TV: will have a camera at the event
- CBC Victoria (Dave Biro): interested

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:16 PM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Sovka, David GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Victoria Courthouse event tomorrow am

Thx!

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 16, 2017, at 6:08 PM, Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX <Oriane.Fort@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>

> Yes,

>

> I will have to set myself a reminder so I don't autopilot straight to the office!

>

> Oriane

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Mar 16, 2017, at 6:06 PM, Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX <Joanne.Whittier@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>>

>> Hi both - should have asked you this before you left today but can you both come down to the Victoria Courthouse tomorrow for 830: Minister is speaking at 9 and then will kickoff the assembly of the new playground. Please email me back so I know you have received. Thx! Jo

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:08 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Sovka, David GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Victoria Courthouse event tomorrow am

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Sent from my iPhone

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> Sent from my iPhone

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:07 PM
To: Sovka, David GCPE:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Victoria Courthouse event tomorrow am

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Sent from my iPhone

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

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To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Subject: Re: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

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Sent from my iPhone

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Looks good.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
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To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Cost explanation - Vic Courthouse

Breakdown below.

Add - Security + fencing @\$60,000 monthly x 8 months (aug-march 2017) = \$480k

From: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:33 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX
Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
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Hi Lorne

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Not included:

Monthly security and fence rental has been \$60,000/mth since August.

Hope this helps.

Graeme

From: Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:58 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX

Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX

Subject: RE: Two quick questions: playground

Hi Melody, answers to your questions below in blue.

Ryan Lush | Team Lead - Project Administrators | Asset Management Branch

Ph: 250 893-9844 | **e:** Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca | PO Box 9412, Stn Prov Gov, Victoria BC V8W9V1

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Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:42 AM

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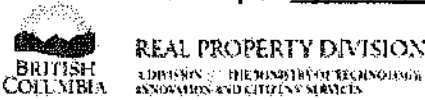
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Subject: RE: Two quick questions: playground

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Ph: 250 893-9844 | **e:** Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca | PO Box 9412, Stn Prov Gov, Victoria BC V8W9V1



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Cc: Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
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Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Danielle St. Jacques <dstjacques@victoria.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:39 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Colleen Mycroft
Subject: Mayor Helps

Good afternoon Tasha,

Thank you for the invitation for Mayor Helps to attend the start of the assembly of equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse tomorrow. Regrettably Mayor Helps is unable to attend as she will be out of the office that day. Mayor Helps sends her appreciation for all the work you're doing and wishes you best of luck for your event. Thank you again and have a lovely afternoon.

Kindly,
Danielle.

Danielle St. Jacques
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC V8W 1P6

T 250.361.0597 F 250.361.0248



Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Boudreau, Marc GCPE:EX; Carruthers, Dana GCPE:EX; Chant, Jon GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Approved and the Final - MTICS NR - Volunteers spring into action to install new playground
Attachments: 2017MTICS0015-000650.pdf

Thanks, Joanne and Melody -

Here is your Final with its queue number on top.

To go Friday at 9:20 AM to Greater Victoria and the Gallery.

I look forward to test-driving those "sitting benches" in the summertime.

Linda Stagg
Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX [mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Subject: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

Permalink: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/14233>

News ID: NEWS-14233
NR Number: 2017MTICS0015-000650
NR Type: News Release
State: Planned
Planned Release Date: March 17, 2017 at 9:20 am Lead Organization: Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Headline: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

This email was auto-generated.

For Immediate Release
2017MTICS0015-000650
March 17, 2017

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

NEWS RELEASE

Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

VICTORIA - A team of volunteers and public servants are pitching in to assemble a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse today, creating a fun and interactive play space in the heart of Victoria for people of all ages to enjoy.

The playground assembly team includes members of the B.C. public service, Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community, Our Place, and former tent city campers.

The 540 square-metre (5,800 square-foot) playground will include equipment chosen by children attending Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools, and will include swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area and a spinning globe. The redesigned property will feature chess tables, benches and a rubberized safety surface with artistic designs.

The space will include a permanent monument to Canadian Afghanistan veterans. The memorial is a project financed by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project Society, which is currently fundraising to create this memorial. The memorial will be dedicated to all Canadians who served in Afghanistan. It will recognize the families and loved ones of those who served and those who returned with physical and mental wounds, while honouring those Canadian Armed Forces and Public Service of Canada members who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Habitat Systems Incorporated will be on site to guide volunteers through the installation and will conduct a safety inspection following its assembly. For easy assembly, all tools required for the day, including levels, hammers, hand drills, nails and shovels, will be supplied.

A generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has contributed \$150,000 toward the cost of the playground equipment. Tire Stewardship B.C. has donated \$80,000 toward the rubberized safety surface. The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services has contributed an additional \$50,000 toward the playground.

A playground emerged as the most-popular choice for the block-wide site during discussions with neighbours. The playground is expected to be ready to open to the public this spring, once the rubberized safety surface is poured and landscaping is completed.

Quotes:

Amrik Virk, Minister of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services -

"I would like to thank today's volunteers and acknowledge the generosity of our donors who have contributed towards revitalizing the Victoria Courthouse site. Today is about giving back and creating a safe public space and playground that the community can enjoy."

Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice -

"I'm delighted to see the former lawn of the Victoria Courthouse be transformed into a vibrant new public playground for the neighborhood and for people of all ages to enjoy. The design of the space is more open, allows more light into the property and enhances public safety - and this is a great thing for both the courthouse and this fantastic new playground."

BGen (Rtd) Joseph E. L. Gollner, OMM, CD, president, Greater Victoria Afghan Memorial Project Society -

"We are proud of what this memorial represents, as a permanent tribute to honour the brave Canadians who died in the service of their country. This serves as a central location for this important memorial, surrounded by the joy of children at play, their families and the strength of community."

Don Evans, executive director, Our Place -

"It's wonderful to see some of the people who were once homeless returning today to help build this community playground. It truly shows how having access to proper housing, health care and opportunity can transform lives and instill that desire to give back."

Stuart Hall, Head, Christ Church Cathedral school -

"This new park and playground will be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood. This park has been designed to serve all ages, from children to seniors, and has the real potential to be a friendly gathering place for the whole community. With so many new families moving into the area, it will be well used. The students of Cathedral school were delighted to be consulted with and are keen to try out their favourite equipment."

Quick Facts:

* Consultations for redeveloping the site included local residents, the YMCA, the Christ Church Cathedral and students at Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools.

* Landscaping will feature 17 new trees, including two maidenhair, one southern catalpa, two Raywood ash, six eastern redbud and six Kwanzan cherry trees.

* In 2015-16, the B.C. government spent close to \$5 million to provide housing and shelter for residents of the Victoria courthouse encampment.

* In 2016-17, the Province will spend approximately \$28 million, which includes capital costs for the Central Care Home, as well as the Super 8 hotel. This includes \$373,000 to Portland Hotel Society (PHS) Community Services for support and outreach services at the encampment site between April and August 2016.

* As of January 2017, more than 260 people from the Victoria courthouse camp are housed at four different housing projects in the region.

* To date, approximately 80 people from the courthouse encampment have moved into permanent housing.

Learn More:

For more information about the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society and its campaign to raise funds to create a memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans: <https://vicaafghanistanmemorial.ca/>

Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:23 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

This is good with me. If good with you - I will finalize and send around a final package to MNGD and JAG, as well as print copies for event tomorrow. Thx - Jo

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Boudreau, Marc GCPE:EX; Carruthers, Dana GCPE:EX; Chant, Jon GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: For Final Review/Approval - MTICS NR - DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

For your review -

And then to go at 9:20 Friday morning, to the Gallery and Greater Victoria.

If we need to chat, please call my Berry 250 882-8673. I am on call this evening.

Linda Stagg
Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX [mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Subject: DRAFT: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved
NR Type: News Release
State: Planned
Planned Release Date: March 17, 2017 at 9:20 am No Lead Organization
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Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

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Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:32 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Boudreau, Marc GCPE:EX; Carruthers, Dana GCPE:EX; Chant, Jon GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Linda's got this one - NR for Friday 9:20am

Linda Stagg
Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:31 PM
To: GCPE Editors
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: NR for Friday 9:20am

Attached is a NR about the new playground at the Victoria Courthouse for Victoria area and press gallery – for release tomorrow around 9:20 am.

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Cavanaugh, Lynda A JAG:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation
Attachments: Invitation MTICS March 17th.pdf

Hi Tasha, I will pop down at 9, s.22

From: Young, Emily GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:40 PM
Subject: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation

Good afternoon,

Please find enclosed an invitation to attend an event on Friday March 17th 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

We hope to have you there and look forward to your RSVP.

In your response, please keep the subject line intact and **Please send all RSVPs to Tasha Schollen at Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca**

Best regards,

Emily Young
Event Coordinator, Event Services
Corporate Planning and Events
Government Communications and Public Engagement

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Horlor, Shannon GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:47 AM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: MA for Victoria - this morning
Attachments: MA_Installation Day for Playground_Mar 17_V3.pdf; MA_Installation Day for Playground_Mar 17_V3.docx

Here are your finals for review. Upon approval, we'll set this up to go at 11:15 a.m. to Victoria media and the gallery.

Shannon

March 16, 2017

MEDIA ADVISORY – Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services – Victoria

VICTORIA – Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services Minister Amrik Virk will be joined by a team of volunteers to assemble and install equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse.

Event Date: Friday, March 17, 2017

Time: 9 a.m.

Location:
Victoria Courthouse property
850 Burdett Ave.
Victoria

Special Instructions: Guests are advised to wear closed-toe shoes or appropriate footwear for a construction site.

Contact:
Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services
250 893-5650

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:36 AM
To: GCPE Editors
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: MA for Victoria - this morning

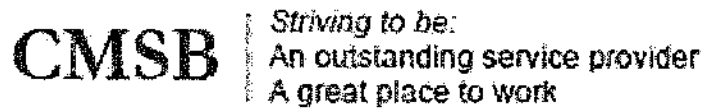
Hi all- attached is a media advisory for the Victoria area and gallery reporters for the assembly of a new playground. Please send out asap this morning. Thanks, Melody

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Chen-Mack, Betty JAG:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RSVP for playground event tomorrow

I will try to attend the Victoria courthouse playground event tomorrow morning. Thanks.
Cheers!

Betty Chen-Mack, M.Arch B.I.D.
Executive Director, Facilities Services Division,
Corporate Management Services Branch, Justice & Public Safety Sector
5-910 Government, Victoria, BC
p. 250 356-7159, c. 250 415-8298



{please be green with this email content}

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Youell, Brandie JAG:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:08 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation
Attachments: Invitation MTICS March 17th.pdf

Good morning Tasha,

Kurt Sandstrom will be unable to attend this event as he is s.22

Thank you,
Brandie

Brandie Youell | Acting Executive Administrative Assistant

Assistant Deputy Minister Office
Justice Services Branch | Ministry of Justice
8th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9J1
Direct: 250-356-6582 | brandie.youell@gov.bc.ca

This message, including any attachments to it, is not to be disclosed outside of the Provincial Government without prior written approval from the Ministry of Justice. If you have received this communication in error, please destroy the email message and any attachments immediately and notify me by telephone or by email.

From: Young, Emily GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:40 PM
Subject: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation

Good afternoon,

Please find enclosed an invitation to attend an event on Friday March 17th 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

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In your response, please keep the subject line intact and **Please send all RSVPs to Tasha Schollen at Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca**

Best regards,
Emily Young
Event Coordinator, Event Services
Corporate Planning and Events
Government Communications and Public Engagement

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Scott Knudsen <Scott.Knudsen@wsi.brookfieldgis.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:06 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation
Attachments: Invitation MTICS March 17th.pdf

Hi Tasha;

Unfortunately I am out of town and will not be able to attend. I am pleased to hear things are going well and the area will make a great difference to the people close to the new playground.

Thanks,
Scott Knudsen
Service Delivery Leader

Brookfield GIS Workplace Solutions Inc.
23 - 3318 Oak Street
Victoria, British Columbia V8X 1R1
T : 250-812-4813
scott.knudsen@wsi.brookfieldgis.com
www.brookfieldgis.com

BrookfieldGIS
Workplace Solutions Inc

From: Young, Emily GCPE:EX [<mailto:Emily.Young@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:40 PM
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Best regards,
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Government Communications and Public Engagement

Please consider the environment before printing this email - Help save our planet.

Veuillez songer à l'environnement avant d'imprimer le présent courriel – Aidez-nous à protéger notre planète.

(This e-mail may be privileged and/or confidential, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. Any distribution, use or copying of this e-mail or the information it contains by other than an intended recipient is unauthorized. If you received this e-mail in error, please advise me (by return e-mail or otherwise) immediately.

Ce courriel est confidentiel et protégé. L'expéditeur ne renonce pas aux droits et obligations qui s'y rapportent. Toute diffusion, utilisation ou copie de ce message ou des renseignements qu'il contient par une personne autre que le(les) destinataire(s) désigné(s) est interdite. Si vous recevez ce courriel par erreur, veuillez m'en aviser immédiatement, par retour de courriel ou par un autre moyen.)

Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX

From: Brown, Colin <colin.brown@vicpd.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:01 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: March 17th

Hi Tasha,

How long will the event at the courthouse go on Monday?

Thanks,

Colin



S/Sgt. Colin Brown #221
Community Services Division
Victoria Police Department
850 Caledonia Avenue
Victoria, BC, V8T 5J8

This message, together with any attachments, is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is confidential and prohibited from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this message or any attachment is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the original sender immediately by telephone or by return email and delete this message along with any attachments, from your computer.

March 16, 2017

MEDIA ADVISORY – Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services – Victoria

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Special Instructions: Guests are advised to wear closed-toe shoes or appropriate footwear for a construction site.

Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2017MTICS0015-000650
March 17, 2017

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

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A generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has contributed \$150,000 toward the cost of the playground equipment. Tire Stewardship B.C. has donated \$80,000 toward the rubberized safety surface. The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services has contributed an additional \$50,000 toward the playground.

A playground emerged as the most-popular choice for the block-wide site during discussions with neighbours. The playground is expected to be ready to open to the public this spring, once the rubberized safety surface is poured and landscaping is completed.

Quotes:

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“I’m delighted to see the former lawn of the Victoria Courthouse be transformed into a vibrant new public playground for the neighborhood and for people of all ages to enjoy. The design of the space is more open, allows more light into the property and enhances public safety – and this is a great thing for both the courthouse and this fantastic new playground.”

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- As of January 2017, more than 260 people from the Victoria courthouse camp are housed at four different housing projects in the region.
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Learn More:

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Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and
Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Victoria Courthouse Playground Opening

KEY MESSAGES - Confidential

March 17, 2017

- **Victoria's new playground at the Victoria Courthouse will be assembled thanks to the efforts of volunteers and public servants.**
- **The playground assembly team includes members of the B.C. public service, Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community, Our Place, and former tent city campers.**
- **The playground will include equipment that children who attend nearby schools have helped to select including swings, slides, climbing nets, toddler play area, and a spinning globe.**
- **The playground will also feature chess tables, benches and a rubberized safety surface with artistic designs.**
- **Habitat Systems Incorporated will be on site to guide volunteers through the installation and will conduct a safety inspection following its assembly.**
- **The playground equipment and benches are being funded thanks to a generous donor who wishes to be anonymous.**
- **Tire Stewardship B.C. has donated \$80,000 towards the rubberized safety surface.**
- **The space will also include a memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans.**
- **The memorial is a project financed by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society, who is currently seeking donations to create this dedicated memorial.**
- **A playground emerged as the most popular choice for the block wide site during discussions with neighbours.**

- **Previously contaminated soil has been removed, and in its place 1.5 feet of new top soil has been laid to ensure that a safe environment has been created.**
- **The playground is scheduled to open to the public this spring, once the play surface and landscaping is completed.**

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
MINISTER AMRIK VIRK
MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND
CITIZENS' SERVICES

Victoria Courthouse Playground Installation Day

850 Burdett Avenue

Mar. 17, 2017

9:00 a.m.

9:05 a.m. for 2 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event: Tasha Schollen, communications director, 250 889-1121

| Time | Event Itinerary |
|----------------|--|
| 8:45 AM | Minister arrives at the parking lot of the Victoria Courthouse for a pre-briefing huddle, including determining the piece of equipment the Minister will begin assembling. |
| 9:00 AM | <p>Media event begins with Minister standing in the parking lot facing the Courthouse so the emerging playground is in the background.</p> <p>Minister speaks for 2-3 minutes.</p> |
| 9:05 AM | Minister steps onto the playground site and is led by Lorne DeLarge and Habitat project lead to a piece of equipment nearby. |
| 9:06 AM | Habitat project lead gives Minister a safety debrief. Minister officially start the day's work by assembling a portion of the equipment (10 minutes roughly allotted) |
| 9:16 AM | Minister thanks everyone for coming, invites media to take photographs |
| 9:17 AM | Media and photo availability |

Welcome:

- Acknowledge:
 - First Nations' territory
 - Volunteers and public servants
 - Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community and Sir James Douglas.
 - Our Place and the former tent city residents
 - Greater Victoria Afghan Memorial Project Society
- Thank organizations who were instrumental in the redevelopment of this site:
 - VicPD
 - Office of the Fire Commissioner
 - City of Victoria
 - YMCA
 - BC Housing
 - VIHA
 - Outreach workers
 - The community and residents

Past Year:

- Thanks for being here today.

- We are gathered at the site of what is going to become a welcoming family oriented playground in the heart of this city.
- Consultations with neighbours including children at nearby schools.

Today and beyond:

- Equipment chosen by children
- Safety check after equipment is put together.
- Rubberized surface poured and landscaping completed.
- A memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans will be part of the site this summer, please consider donating.
- Playground open to public this spring

Thank you:

- Generous donors for the playground equipment
- Tire Stewardship B.C.
- Market on Yates, Country Grocer and Starbucks for providing food for today's volunteers.

Questions and Answers
Victoria Courthouse Playground Opening
March 17, 2017

1. What is being announced today?

- A team of volunteers and public servants are pitching in to assemble a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse, creating a fun and interactive play space in the heart of Victoria for people of all ages to enjoy.
- The playground assembly team includes members of the B.C. public service, Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community, Our Place, and former tent city campers.
- The playground will include equipment that over 500 children who attend nearby schools have helped to select including swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area, and a spinning globe.
- There will also chess tables, benches and a rubberized safety surface with artistic designs.
- The playground is scheduled to open to the public this spring, once the rubberized safety surface and landscaping is completed.

2. Playgrounds are typically owned by municipalities, does the B.C. government own other playgrounds?

- Yes. For example, provincial parks and campgrounds often feature large playgrounds.
- In the case of the Victoria Courthouse playground, the land is owned by the Province.

3. How did the idea of a “volunteer day” come about?

- The idea of using volunteers to assemble the playground equipment first came from the supplier, Habitat Systems, who offers a supervised community installation model as one of their services.
- Ministry staff jumped at the chance to organize this unique opportunity - as a way of giving back and creating a safe public space and playground that the community can enjoy.

4. How were the volunteers selected?

- A call for volunteers was put out to ministry staff and organizations that were instrumental to providing supports to the former tent city camp, as well as former tent city campers.

5. Are the public service volunteers being paid their regular wage?

- While the public service employees are going to be paid their regular salary for the day, it's important to note that these employees are participating as volunteers. Employees are not being directed by the Province to attend, they are doing so at their own choice.
- The number of public service staff was capped at 15 to ensure members of other organizations could be involved.

6. Were residents in the area invited to volunteer?

- Given the level of interest, the call for volunteers was limited to ministry staff and organizations that were instrumental to providing supports to the former tent city camp, as well as former tent city campers.

7. Who was consulted on building a playground on the site?

- Four separate discussions were held with neighbours of the site.
- In addition, discussions have also been held with the YMCA, the Christ Church Cathedral and the Christ Church Cathedral School.
- In addition, design input has been sought by over 500 children who attend nearby schools, including Christ Church Cathedral School and Sir James Douglas Elementary School.

8. Were there other suggestions for the site that came up in the consultations?

- Discussions with neighbours showed an overwhelming interest in turning the space into a playground. Out of respect for the neighbours, the idea for the playground was pursued.

BUDGET/FUNDING

9. What is the estimated budget of the playground?

- Including the contributions of our generous donors, the total cost of the playground is approximately \$50,000.
- We have received \$230,000 in donations that will go towards the costs of the playground. The ministry has contributed \$50,000.
- The total cost of fully restoring the greenspace, including soil remediation, landscaping, security fencing and installation of a playground will be around \$770-thousand.

10. Did government save money by using volunteers to assemble the equipment?

- The ministry gained some savings, about \$5,000, within the contract with Habitat Systems by using the supervised community installation model.
- We were able to put this savings towards the purchase of additional play equipment.

11. How much has the Province paid for the site since the first tent went up, including the playground and landscaping and such?

- Altogether, the Province has spent approximately \$2.1-million for costs associated with the encampment and for the revitalized playground space.
- These costs include:
 - \$1.3M: security, garbage collection, port-a-potties and upkeep, gravel, water hookup, power installation, BC Hydro service, fencing and demolition.
 - \$770K: remediation, playground, landscape architecture, project management.

12. Any update on the legal fees that the Province is being ordered to pay?

- The Province is disputing some of the claimed fees and disbursements and has asked counsel for the campers for a revised bill of costs and disbursements.
- We won't know the total payment of costs in this matter until the Province has received a revised bill of costs, and either agrees to the amounts, or the amount is settled by the registrar.
- Once we are in receipt of that revised bill, the Province will pay the amount.

AFGHAN MEMORIAL

13. What can you tell us about a memorial to Afghan veterans, we hear that's part of the plan for the site, is it?

- The Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society was formed to create a memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans. The restoration of the Courthouse Greenspace presented an ideal opportunity to design the site in harmony with a memorial.
- The memorial is a project financed by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society, who is currently seeking donations to create this memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans.
- We are honoured to be able to provide a site for the memorial. The people who have given their lives in the service of Canada deserve to be recognized.

14. Who is paying for this?

- The memorial is led by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society and funded through donations to the society.

15. How was this location selected for the memorial?

- The Victoria Courthouse property is a good location for the memorial as it's a centralized downtown location and is fully accessible.
- The society requested this location to be considered for the memorial, and they are pleased with the design presented.

16. Had any other groups come forward requesting a similar memorial in this space and if so, why was this one chosen?

- There were no other memorials requested to go into the space.

17. How many Afghan veterans are there in Victoria? In B.C.?

- More than 40,000 Canadian Armed Forces members served in Afghanistan from 2001 to 2014.

- During Canada's longest military campaign, 158 Canadian soldiers and five members of the Public Service of Canada lost their lives.

SUPPLIER

18. How was the supplier selected?

- Habitat Systems was selected from a pre-existing corporate supply arrangement with the Ministry of Education.
- They are a Canadian supplier with offices throughout western Canada, including one in Burnaby.

19. Are there any B.C. suppliers that could have been chosen?

- There are a number of suppliers on the corporate supply arrangement with the Ministry of Education.

SAFETY

20. Is a courthouse really the best place for a playground?

- Every effort has been made to transform the space into a safe space for kids and families to enjoy and we are confident in the security mechanisms in place at the courthouse.
- The space has been designed with security in mind. For example, the new landscaping will provide clear sightlines of the space which will increase public safety. Overhead lighting will also be installed.
- Victoria police have conducted a security analysis of the courthouse site and advised on crime prevention through environmental design.

21. What would you say to parents who say they wouldn't take their kids to this playground in case there are still needles or contaminants?

- We have complete confidence that the site will be safe for everyone to enjoy. The extensive clean-up and remediation work, including removing the contaminated soil, provides us with the reassurance that the space is safe for kids and families.
- The site is now deemed to be clean to an urban park standard according to the Ministry of Environment regulations.
- The rubberized safety surface has the added benefit of not concealing sharp objects, as can be the case with other surface treatments.
- The space has been designed with security in mind. For example, the new landscaping will provide clear sightlines of the space which will increase public safety. Overhead lighting will also be installed.
- We are confident in the security mechanisms in place at the courthouse.

22. If a kid is hurt or injured on the site or playground, than who is liable?

- In Canada, there are case law precedents for injuries occurring at playgrounds. The law allows governments to install playgrounds in public spaces, provided they are properly manufactured, maintained and installed. The BC Government will only install CSA approved equipment with a manufacturer's warranty and that is what is happening here.
- Habitat Systems will conduct a safety inspection once the equipment is assembled and issue a 100-year warranty on the equipment.

23. Who will be responsible for maintaining the property?

- The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services will retain ownership of the site and be responsible for its maintenance.

SOIL REMEDIATION

24. What was the total cost of the soil remediation?

- Soil remediation has been completed on budget at \$350,000.

25. Whose decision was it to send the contaminated soil to Tervita in the Highlands?

- My ministry contracted the services of Pinchin, one of Canada's largest environmental, engineering, health and safety consulting firms.
- Pinchin subcontracted Tervita to remove and dispose of the soil appropriately.
- Tervita is certified by the Ministry of Environment and satisfies the requirements set out by both the Province and the Capital Regional District.
- Tervita's Highwest facility was included as an option in the bid they provided.

26. Was it the Minister or Ministry that ultimately signed off this decision?

- Our contractor, Pinchin West Ltd. tendered the soil removal through a competitive bid process and ultimately chose Tervita.
- Pinchin discussed its decision with Shared Services BC and our outsourced property management company – WSI Inc.
- Tervita is a certified soil recovery company operating since 1979, with dozens of facilities across Canada.
- Their Highwest facility was included as an option in their bid.

27. Why would your ministry pay for the soil disposal but not pick the company doing it?

- Through a competitive bid process, my ministry subcontracted Pinchin, which has the requisite experience and knowledge to select the best soil disposal company for the job.
- I am told that cost effectiveness and proximity to the courthouse site were considerations in Pinchin's selection of Tervita, through a competitive bid process.

If pressed as to the number of bidders:

- I am told there were a total of four bidders seeking to dispose of the soil.

28. Why this particular location in the Highlands?

- That was a decision made by Tervita upon competing and winning the competitive bid process.
- That said, I am told that cost effectiveness and proximity to the courthouse site were considerations in Tervita's decision.

29. How was the soil disposed of? Was it treated?

- Given the type of contaminants found on the site, Tervita's Highwest facility met the requirements necessary to dispose of the soil and is certified by the Ministry of Environment to do so.
- The soil has been disposed of at that site according to Ministry of Environment and CRD regulations.

30. What contaminants did you find in the soil?

- Testing of soil samples determined several contaminants, including lead, gasoline, diesel and trace amounts of methamphetamines were found in the soil.
- Previously contaminated soil has been removed, and in its place 1.5 feet of new top soil has been laid to ensure that a safe environment has been created.
- The site is now deemed to be clean to an urban park standard according to the Ministry of Environment regulations.

31. What can you tell me about pest control on the site?

- Pest control is completed for the most part, however some rodent traps remain at the site to ensure the population doesn't return.
- The rodent population has been reduced significantly, allowing us to move into the remediation phase.

32. Are there still rats on site?

- It's important to keep in mind that rats exist all over the downtown of Victoria and will never be completely eradicated.
- That said, we are pleased with the results we've had on the pest control measures.

TREES/LANDSCAPING

33. Has there been a landscaper/designer involved in selecting the new trees?

- Both an arborist and a landscape architect have provided input into tree health and appropriate species. In total, 17 new trees will be planted.

34. Are these native trees? How were they selected?

- The 17 new trees have been selected by experts in the field based on a balance of considerations. The trees will be suited to the local climate, drought tolerant, easy to maintain and aesthetically pleasing.
- The design and placement of trees will provide a burst of spring colour (fuschia) and allow more sunlight to enter the centre of the site.

35. Can you remind me what trees were removed?

- Of the 20 trees previously on the courthouse site, 11 are healthy and have been preserved. Every effort was made to preserve as many of the established trees as was safe.
- Nine trees were identified as having shallow roots making them unsafe and unlikely to survive the soil remediation. Those trees were removed and included seven Crimson King Maples, one Tree of Heaven and one Rubinia.

FORMER ENCAMPMENT:

36. Why not just return the space to its former state?

- We consulted with area neighbours and they overwhelmingly supported a community playground at the site.
- The courthouse site is in a nice centralized downtown location surrounded by a neighbourhood, schools, and a community YMCA.
- This playground will create a play space for families in the downtown core that doesn't currently exist.
- It will also bring vitality and energy to the site, and a playground was deemed the best way to encourage mixed use.

37. Will the homeless be able to camp there?

- No, there will be no overnight camping allowed on the site.
- The City of Victoria has a bylaw against overnight camping in playgrounds.
- In addition, the playground will be closed from dusk until dawn, with signage stating this.

38. Who will be enforcing that?

- It will be up to the Victoria Police Department to enforce the bylaw.

39. Did you choose a playground to keep the homeless away?

- Discussions with neighbours showed that there was overwhelming interest in turning the space into a playground.

- Additional, the City of Victoria had previously identified a need for a downtown playground. This playground will fulfill this need and create a play space for families in the downtown core that doesn't currently exist.
- The courthouse site is in a nice centralized downtown location surrounded by a neighbourhood, schools, and a community YMCA.
- The playground will also bring energy to the site, and the various features have been included for people of all ages to enjoy.

40. Why not build social housing for the homeless in this space?

- In October 2016, Premier Clark announced a \$45 million provincial investment in 500 new units of affordable housing in Victoria for individuals, seniors and families.
- We can generate more housing by reusing existing buildings for this purpose. We can also generate housing more quickly when we reuse existing buildings. That's what we did though the purchase of the former Central Care Home and the former Super 8 hotel.
- Since November 2015, the Province has invested approximately \$26 million to create more than 400 new units of shelter and transitional housing (includes 51 units at the former Super 8 hotel, which has not yet opened).
- That's in addition to the \$13 million that was provided in the community last year to support close to 990 housing units for the homeless.

41. Will you be dedicating the site to the homeless?

- This site has been used as a park for many years and is now being transformed into an amenity that offers enjoyment to all segments of society.
- We support an approach that is inclusive.

42. Will you consider putting a plaque on the site to commemorate the homeless that lived there?

- We always look to support those who are homeless by providing housing and services.
- Housing was provided for all of the homeless that were living on the site.
- In addition, Premier Clark announced a \$45 million provincial investment in 500 new units of affordable housing in Victoria for individuals, seniors and families.

43. How much money has the Province spent on this site since the homeless camp went up?

- In addition to providing housing, provincial costs associated with managing the encampment site were allocated for things such as security, garbage collection, port-a-potties and upkeep, fire extinguishers, gravel, water hookup/service, power pole installation, BC Hydro service, fencing and site demolition. These costs totalled approximately \$1.3 million between December 2015 and October 2016.

- In 2015/16, the B.C. government spent close to \$5 million to provide housing and shelter for residents of the Victoria courthouse encampment.
- In 2016/17, the Province will spend approximately \$28 million, which includes capital costs for the Central Care Home, as well as the Super 8 hotel. This includes \$373,000 to PHS Community Services for support and outreach services at the encampment site between April and August 2016.
- The total cost of fully restoring the greenspace, including soil remediation, landscaping, security fencing and installation of a playground will be around \$1 million.

Victoria Courthouse Playground – Volunteer Assembly Day, March 17, 2017
Invite List - Volunteers & Dignitaries

| | | Organization | Name | Title | Contact |
|----|-----------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | Volunteer | YMCA | Steve Gough | Director of Operations | sgough@vancouverislandy.com |
| 2 | Dignitary | YMCA | Reid Hepworth | Director of Childcare | rhepworth@vancouverislandy.com |
| 3 | Volunteer | Christ Church School | Stuart Hall Students & Families | Principle | stuart.hall@cathedralschool.ca |
| 4 | Volunteer | Christ Church Cathedral | Ainsley Tucker | Reverend | thedeane@christchurchcathedral.bc.ca |
| 5 | Dignitary | Jawl Family Foundation | Robert Jawl | Director | rkj@jawlproperties.com |
| 6 | Volunteer | OHCS | Virginia Holden | | Virginia.holden@gov.bc.ca |
| 7 | Dignitary | OHCS | Trudy Rotgans | | Trudy.rotgans@gov.bc.ca |
| 8 | Dignitary | OHCS | Greg Steeves | | gregory.steves@gov.bc.ca |
| 9 | Dignitary | OHCS | Jeff Vasey (former ADM) | | Jeff.vasey@gov.bc.ca |
| 10 | Dignitary | BC Housing | Dominic Flanagan | | dflanagan@bchousing.org |
| 11 | Dignitary | BC Housing | Roger Butcher | | rbutcher@bchousing.org |
| 12 | Dignitary | BC Housing | Heidi Hartman | | hhartman@bchousing.org |
| 13 | Dignitary | BC Housing | Shayne Ramsay | | sramsay@bchousing.org |
| 14 | Dignitary | Portland Housing | Andy Bond | | andy@phs.ca |
| 15 | Dignitary | Portland Housing | Duncan Higgon | | dhiggon@phs.ca |
| 16 | Volunteer | Our Place | Don Evans | | don@ourplacesociety.com |
| 17 | | Choices | Former Tent City Residents | | |
| 18 | Volunteer | Cool Aid | Don McTavish | Director | dmctavish@coolaid.org |
| 19 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services | Lorne Delarge | A/ADM | lorne.delarge@gov.bc.ca |
| 20 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services | Graeme Sykes | REM | Graeme.sykes@gov.bc.ca |
| 21 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services | Jon Burbee | ED | Jon.burbee@gov.bc.ca |
| 22 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services | Lisa Koorbatof | DCR | Lisa.koorbatof@gov.bc.ca |
| 23 | Volunteer | Consultant | Michael Blaschuk | Consultant for Tent City | s.22 |
| 24 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services | Amrik Virk | Minister, MTICS | Amrik.Virk@gov.bc.ca |
| 25 | Dignitary | Citizens' Services | Sarf Ahmed | Assoc DM | Sarf.Ahmed@gov.bc.ca |
| 26 | Dignitary | Premier's office | Bobbi Plecas | Assoc DM | Bobbi.plecas@gov.bc.ca |
| 27 | Dignitary | Ministry of Technology, | John Jacobson | DM, MTICS | John.jacobson@gov.bc.ca |

| | | | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| | | Innovation and Citizens' Services | | | |
| 28 | Dignitary | Justice | Kurt Sandstrom | ADM | Kurt.Sandstrom@gov.bc.ca |
| 29 | Dignitary | Justice | James Harvey | ADM | James.Harvey@gov.bc.ca |
| 30 | Dignitary | Justice | Leah Greathead | Supervising Counsel, Justice | Leah.Greathead@gov.bc.ca |
| 31 | Dignitary | MCFD | Alison Bond | ADM | Allison.Bond@gov.bc.ca |
| 32 | ? | WSI | Denis Fredette | Facility manager | denis.fredette@wsi.brookfieldgis.com |
| 33 | ? | WSI | Nikki Moyles | Project Manager | nicola.moyles@brookfieldgis.com |
| 34 | ? | WSI | Lorenzo Devera | Facility manager | Lorenzo Devera <Lorenzo.DeVera@wsi.brookfieldgis.com> |
| 35 | ? | WSI | Scott Knudsen | Facility manager | Scott Knudsen <Scott.Knudsen@wsi.brookfieldgis.com> |
| 36 | ? | Contractors | s.22 | | s.22 |
| 37 | ? | Contractors | | | |
| 38 | ? | Contractors | HL Demolition – Sean, Cole, Chris, Dave | | |
| 39 | ? | Paladin | Shane Wright | Security Guard | Shane Wright <swright@paladinsecurity.com> |
| 40 | | | Trevor Sparkes | | |
| 41 | Dignitary | PO | Bobbi Plecas | | Bobbi.plecas@gov.bc.ca |
| 42 | Dignitary | MCFD | Lise Erickson | | Lise.erikson@gov.bc.ca |
| 43 | Dignitary | MCFD | Allison Bond | | Allison.bond@gov.bc.ca |
| 44 | Dignitary | MCFD | Rhonda Peterson | | Rhonda.C.Peterson@gov.bc.ca |
| 45 | Dignitary | MCFD | David Schulte | | David.Schulte@gov.bc.ca |
| 46 | Dignitary | MCFD | Kim Grantham | | Kim.Grantham@gov.bc.ca |
| 47 | | MCFD | | | |
| 48 | Dignitary | SDSI | Mike Woodcock | | Mike.woodcock@gov.bc.ca |
| 49 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Kurt Sandstrom | | Kurt.sandstrom@gov.bc.ca |
| 50 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Leah Greathead | | Leah.greathead@gov.bc.ca |
| 51 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Tyna Mason | | Tyna.mason@gov.bc.ca |
| 52 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Sarah Bevan | | Sarah.Bevan@gov.bc.ca |
| 53 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Sara Goodman | | Sara.Goodman@gov.bc.ca |
| 54 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Keith Phillips | | Keith.Phillips@gov.bc.ca |
| 55 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | Nancy Reimer | | Nancy.Reimer@gov.bc.ca |
| 56 | Dignitary | JAG – Legal | James Harvey | | James.Harvey@gov.bc.ca |
| 57 | Dignitary | Min JAG | Betty Chen-Mack | | Betty.ChenMack@gov.bc.ca |
| 58 | Dignitary | Min JAG | Brenda Miller | | Brenda.L.Miller@gov.bc.ca |
| 59 | Dignitary | Min JAG | Lynda Cavanaugh | | Lynda.Cavanaugh@gov.bc.ca |
| 60 | Dignitary | Min JAG | Stephanie Melvin | | Stephanie.Melvin@gov.bc.ca |
| 61 | Dignitary | | Sheriff Inspector Wharton | | Peter.wharton@gov.bc.ca |

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| 62 | Dignitary | Justice Access Centre | Peter Sperling | | Peter.Sperling@gov.bc.ca |
| 63 | Dignitary | Justice Access Centre | Jan Fontaine | | Jan.Fontaine@gov.bc.ca |
| 64 | Dignitary | Island Health | Dr. Stanwick | | Richard.stanwick@viha.ca |
| 65 | Dignitary | Island Health | Dr. Dee Hoyano | | Dee.hoyano@viha.ca |
| 66 | Dignitary | Island Health | Murray Fife | | Murray.fife@viha.ca |
| 67 | Dignitary | Island Health | Jade Yehia | | Jade.yehia@viha.ca |
| 68 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Del Manak | | Del.manak@vicpd.ca |
| 69 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Colin Watson | | Colin.watson@vicpd.ca |
| 70 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Scott McGregor | | Scott.mcgregor@vicpd.ca |
| 71 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Colin Brown | | Colin.brown@vicpd.ca |
| 72 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Dan O'Connor | | Dan.occonnor@vicpd.ca |
| 73 | Dignitary | Vic PD | Chris Spargo | | Chris.spargo@vicpd.ca |
| 74 | Dignitary | Vic Fire Dept | Chris Royle | | croyle@victoria.ca |
| 75 | Dignitary | Vic Fire Dept | Paul Bruce | | pbruce@victoria.ca |
| 76 | Dignitary | Vic Fire Dept | Daniel Atkinson | | datkinson@victoria.ca |
| 77 | Dignitary | Vic Fire Dept | Megan Sabel | | msabel@victoria.ca |
| 78 | Dignitary | Provincial Fire Comm | Gord Anderson | | Gordon.anderson@gov.bc.ca |
| 79 | Dignitary | Provincial Fire Comm | Bob Cooper | | Robert.cooper@gov.bc.ca |
| 80 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Colleen Mycroft | | cmycroft@victoria.ca |
| 81 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Chris Coates | | ccoates@victoria.ca |
| 82 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Jason Johnson | | jjohnson@victoria.ca |
| 83 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Jocelyn Jenkins | | jjenkins@victoria.ca |
| 84 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Thomas Soulliere | | tsoulliere@victoria.ca |
| 85 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Jonathan Tinney | | jtinney@victoria.ca |
| 86 - 93 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Lisa Helps | Mayor + Council | <p>mayor@victoria.ca</p> <p>Councillor Marianne malto@victoria.ca</p> <p>Councillor Chris Coleman ccoleman@victoria.ca</p> <p>Councillor Ben Isitt bisitt@victoria.ca</p> <p>Councillor Jeremy Loveday jloveday@victoria.ca</p> <p>Councillor Margaret Lucas</p> |

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | | | | | mlucas@victoria.ca Councillor Pamela Madoff pmadoff@victoria.ca Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe cth Thornton-Joe@victoria.ca Councillor Geoff Young gyoung@victoria.ca |
| 94-96 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Jason Johnson | City Manager | jjohnson@victoria.ca Jocelyn Jenkyns - Deputy City Manager jjenkyns@victoria.ca Media Contact Rebecca Penz - Citizen Engagement Advisor rpenz@victoria.ca |
| 97 | Dignitary | City of Victoria | Jonathan Tinney | Director Sustainability | jtinney@victoria.ca |
| 98 | Dignitary | Tire Stewardship BC | Rosemary Sutton | Executive Director | rsutton@tsbc.ca |
| 99 | Dignitary | Rich Coleman | Minister, NGD&Housing | | Rich.Coleman@gov.bc.ca |
| 100 | Dignitary | Nick Facey | CoS | | Nick.facey@gov.bc.ca |
| 101 | Volunteer | Stuart Hall | Christ Church Cathedral School | | stuart.hall@cathedralschool.ca |
| 102 | Volunteer | Graeme Sykes | MTICS / RPD / AMB | | Graeme.Sykes@gov.bc.ca |
| 103 | Volunteer | Ryan Lush | MTICS / RPD / AMB | | Ryan.Lush@gov.bc.ca |
| 104 | Volunteer | Elena Lawson | MTICS / RPD / AMB | **non assembly volunteer** | Elena.Lawson@gov.bc.ca |
| 105 | Volunteer | Cristina Frias | MTICS / RPD / REBS | | Cristina.N.Frias@gov.bc.ca |
| 106 | Volunteer | Krista Rossato | MTICS / RPD / Workplace Strategies | | Krista.Rossato@gov.bc.ca |
| 107 | Volunteer | Yaheli Klein | MTICS / RPD / REBS | | Yaheli.Klein@gov.bc.ca |

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-------------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| 108 | Volunteer | Matthew Seeger | MTICS / RPD / Worplace Strategies | First Aid Attendant | Matthew.Seeger@gov.bc.ca |
| 109 | Volunteer | Lisa Marie Seeger | MTICS / RPD / REBS | | LisaMarie.Seeger@gov.bc.ca |
| 110 | Volunteer | John Carrelli | MTICS / RPD / AMB | | John.Carrelli@gov.bc.ca |
| 111 | Volunteer | Catherine Du Bois | MTICS / RPD / AMB | **non assembly volunteer** | Catherine.DuBois@gov.bc.ca |
| 112 | Volunteer | Dar Purewall | MTICS / RPD / AMB | | Dar.Purewall@gov.bc.ca |
| 113 | Volunteer | Beth Howard | MTICS / RPD / AMB & REBS | **non assembly volunteer** | Beth.Howard@gov.bc.ca |
| 114 | Dignitary | Larry Gollner | Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society | | s.22 |



Please join

The Honourable Amrik Virk
Minister of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

Along with a team of volunteers,
to start the assembly of equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse.

9:00 a.m.
Friday, March 17th, 2017

Location:
Site of New Playground
Back of the Victoria Courthouse
850 Burdett Avenue
Victoria

Please wear closed toed shoes or appropriate footwear as the location is under construction

Please RSVP to Tasha Schollen
Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca

Guest List Template

| RSVP | First Name | Last Name | Title | Organization | Email |
|------|------------|------------|-------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Steve | Gough | | | sgough@vancouverislandy.com |
| | Reid | Hepworth | | | rheworth@vancouverislandy.com |
| | Stuart | Hall | | | stuart.hall@cathedralschool.ca |
| | Ainsley | Tucker | | | thedeane@christchurchcathedral.bc.ca |
| N | Robert | Jawl | | | rkj@jawlproperties.com |
| | Virginia | Holden | | | Virginia.holden@gov.bc.ca |
| | Trudy | Rotgans | | | Trudy.rotgans@gov.bc.ca |
| | Greg | Steeves | | | gregory.steves@gov.bc.ca |
| | Jeff | Vasey | | | Jeff.vasey@gov.bc.ca |
| | Dominic | Flanagan | | | dflanagan@bchousing.org |
| | Roger | Butcher | | | rbutcher@bchousing.org |
| | Heidi | Hartman | | | hhartman@bchousing.org |
| | Shayne | Ramsey | | | sramsay@bchousing.org |
| | Andy | Bond | | | andy@phs.ca |
| | Duncan | Higgon | | | dhiggon@phs.ca |
| | Don | Evans | | | don@ourplacesociety.com |
| | Don | McTavish | | | dmctavish@coolaid.org |
| Y | Lorne | DeLarge | | | lorne.delarge@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Graeme | Sykes | | | Graeme.sykes@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Jon | Burbee | | | Jon.burbee@gov.bc.ca |
| | Lisa | Koorbatof | | | Lisa.koorbatof@gov.bc.ca |
| | Michael | Blaschuk | | | s.22 |
| N | Sarf | Ahmed | | | Sarf.Ahmed@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Bobbi | Plecas | | | Bobbi.plecas@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | John | Jacobson | | | John.jacobson@gov.bc.ca |
| N | Kurt | Sandstrom | | | Kurt.Sandstrom@gov.bc.ca |
| N | James | Harvey | | | James.Harvey@gov.bc.ca |
| | Leah | Greathhead | | | Leah.Greathhead@gov.bc.ca |
| | Allison | Bond | | | Allison.Bond@gov.bc.ca |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Y | Denis | Fredette | | | denis.fredette@wsi.brookfieldgis.com |
| | Nkki | Moyles | | | nicola.moyles@brookfieldgis.com |
| | Lorenzo | Devera | | | Lorenzo.DeVera@wsi.brookfieldgis.com |
| N | Scott | Knudson | | | Scott.Knudsen@wsi.brookfieldgis.com |
| Y | s.22 | | | | s.22 |
| | Shane | Wright | | | swright@paladinsecurity.com |
| | Lise | Erickson | | | Lise.erikson@gov.bc.ca |
| | Rhona | Peterson | | | Rhonda.C.Peterson@gov.bc.ca |
| | David | Schulte | | | David.Schulte@gov.bc.ca |
| | Kim | grantham | | | Kim.Grantham@gov.bc.ca |
| | Mick | Woodcock | | | Mike.woodcock@gov.bc.ca |
| | Tyna | Mason | | | Tyna.mason@gov.bc.ca |
| | Sarah | Bevan | | | Sarah.Bevan@gov.bc.ca |
| N | Sara | Goodman | | | Sara.Goodman@gov.bc.ca |
| | Keith | Phillips | | | Keith.Phillips@gov.bc.ca |
| | Nancy | Reimer | | | Nancy.Reimer@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Betty | Chan-Mack | | | Betty.ChenMack@gov.bc.ca |
| | Brenda | Miller | | | Brenda.L.Miller@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Lynda | Cavanaugh | | | Lynda.Cavanaugh@gov.bc.ca |
| | Stephanie | Melvin | | | Stephanie.Melvin@gov.bc.ca |
| N | Peter | Wharton | | | Peter.wharton@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Peter | Sperling | | | Peter.Sperling@gov.bc.ca |
| N | Jan | Fontaine | | | Jan.Fontaine@gov.bc.ca |
| | Richard | Stanwick | | | Richard.stanwick@viha.ca |
| | Dee | Hoyano | | | Dee.hoyano@viha.ca |
| | Murray | Fife | | | Murray.fife@viha.ca |
| | Jade | Yehia | | | Jade.yehia@viha.ca |
| | Del | Manak | | | Del.manak@vicpd.ca |
| | Colin | Watson | | | Colin.watson@vicpd.ca |
| | Scott | McGregor | | | Scott.mcgregor@vicpd.ca |
| | Colin | Brown | | | Colin.brown@vicpd.ca |
| | Dan | O'Conner | | | Dan.occonnor@vicpd.ca |
| | Chris | Spargo | | | Chris.spargo@vicpd.ca |
| Y | Chris | Royle | | | croyle@victoria.ca |
| | Paul | Bruce | | | pbruce@victoria.ca |

| | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| N | Daniel | Atkinson | | | datkinson@victoria.ca |
| | Megan | Sabel | | | msabel@victoria.ca |
| | Gord | Anderson | | | Gordon.anderson@gov.bc.ca |
| | Bobbi | Cooper | | | Robert.cooper@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Colleen | Mycroft | | | cmycroft@victoria.ca |
| | Chris | Coats | | | ccoates@victoria.ca |
| Y | Jason | Johnson | | | jjohnson@victoria.ca |
| | Jocelyen | Jenkins | | | jjenkins@victoria.ca |
| Y | Thomas | Soulliere | | | tsoulliere@victoria.ca |
| | Jonathan | Tinney | | | jtinney@victoria.ca |
| N | Lisa | Helps | | | mayor@victoria.ca |
| | Marianne | Alto | | | malto@victoria.ca |
| N | Chris | Coleman | | | ccoleman@victoria.ca |
| | Ben | Isitt | | | bisitt@victoria.ca |
| | Jeremy | Loveday | | | jloveday@victoria.ca |
| | Margaret | Lucas | | | mlucas@victoria.ca |
| | Pamela | Madoff | | | pmadoff@victoria.ca |
| | Charlayne | Thornton-Joe | | | cth Thornton-joe@victoria.ca |
| | Geoff | Young | | | gyoung@victoria.ca |
| | Rebecca | Penz | | | rpenz@victoria.ca |
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| | Elena | Lawson | | | Elena.Lawson@gov.bc.ca |
| | Christina | Frias | | | Cristina.N.Frias@gov.bc.ca |
| | Krista | Rossato | | | Krista.Rossato@gov.bc.ca |
| N | Yaheli | Klein | | | Yaheli.Klein@gov.bc.ca |
| | Matthew | Seeger | | | Matthew.Seeger@gov.bc.ca |
| | Lisa Marie | Seeger | | | LisaMarie.Seeger@gov.bc.ca |
| | John | Carrelli | | | John.Carrelli@gov.bc.ca |
| | Catherine | Du Bois | | | Catherine.DuBois@gov.bc.ca |
| | Dar | Purewall | | | Dar.Purewall@gov.bc.ca |
| | Beth | Howard | | | Beth.Howard@gov.bc.ca |
| Y | Larry | Gollner | | | s.22 |
| Y | Tasha | Schollen | | | |
| Y | Joanne | Whittier | | | |
| Y | Jessica | LaForge | | | |
| Y | Amrik | Virk | | | |

From: [Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Boudreau, Marc GCPE:EX](#); [Carruthers, Dana GCPE:EX](#); [Chant, Jon GCPE:EX](#); [Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX](#); [Wey, Melody GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Approved and the Final - MTICS NR - Volunteers spring into action to install new playground
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:35:44 PM
Attachments: [2017MTICS0015-000650.pdf](#)

Thanks, Joanne and Melody -

Here is your Final with its queue number on top.

To go Friday at 9:20 AM to Greater Victoria and the Gallery.

I look forward to test-driving those "sitting benches" in the summertime.

Linda Stagg
Editor, Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534 | Mobile: 250 882-8673

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX [<mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Subject: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

Permalink: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/14233>

News ID: NEWS-14233
NR Number: 2017MTICS0015-000650
NR Type: News Release
State: Planned
Planned Release Date: March 17, 2017 at 9:20 am Lead Organization: Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Headline: Volunteers spring into action to install new playground


This email was auto-generated.

For Immediate Release
2017MTICS0015-000650
March 17, 2017

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

NEWS RELEASE

Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

 **VICTORIA** - A team of volunteers and public servants are pitching in to assemble a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse today, creating a fun and interactive play space in the heart of Victoria for people of all ages to enjoy.

The playground assembly team includes members of the B.C. public service, Christ Church Cathedral Parish and School community, Our Place, and former tent city campers.

The 540 square-metre (5,800 square-foot) playground will include equipment chosen by children attending Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools, and will include swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area and a spinning globe. The redesigned property will feature chess tables, benches and a rubberized safety surface with artistic designs.

The space will include a permanent monument to Canadian Afghanistan veterans. The memorial is a project financed by the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project Society, which is currently fundraising to create this memorial. The memorial will be dedicated to all Canadians who served in Afghanistan. It will recognize the families and loved ones of those who served and those who returned with physical and mental wounds, while honouring those Canadian Armed Forces and Public Service of Canada members who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Habitat Systems Incorporated will be on site to guide volunteers through the installation and will conduct a safety inspection following its assembly. For easy assembly, all tools required for the day, including levels, hammers, hand drills, nails and shovels, will be supplied.

A generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has contributed \$150,000 toward the cost of the playground equipment. Tire Stewardship B.C. has donated \$80,000 toward the rubberized safety surface. The Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services has contributed an additional \$50,000 toward the playground.

A playground emerged as the most-popular choice for the block-wide site during discussions with neighbours. The playground is expected to be ready to open to the public this spring, once the rubberized safety surface is poured and landscaping is completed.

Quotes:

Amrik Virk, Minister of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services -

"I would like to thank today's volunteers and acknowledge the generosity of our donors who have contributed towards revitalizing the Victoria Courthouse site. Today is about giving back and creating a safe public space and playground that the community can enjoy."

Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice -

"I'm delighted to see the former lawn of the Victoria Courthouse be transformed into a vibrant new public playground for the neighborhood and for people of all ages to enjoy. The design of the space is more open, allows more light into the property and enhances public safety - and this is a great thing for both the courthouse and this fantastic new playground."

BGen (Rtd) Joseph E. L. Gollner, OMM, CD, president, Greater Victoria Afghan Memorial Project Society -

"We are proud of what this memorial represents, as a permanent tribute to honour the brave Canadians who died in the service of their country. This serves as a central location for this important memorial, surrounded by the joy of children at play, their families and the strength of community."

Don Evans, executive director, Our Place -

"It's wonderful to see some of the people who were once homeless returning today to help build this community playground. It truly shows how having access to proper housing, health care and opportunity can transform lives and instill that desire to give back."

Stuart Hall, Head, Christ Church Cathedral school -

"This new park and playground will be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood. This park has been designed to serve all ages, from children to seniors, and has the real potential to be a friendly gathering place for the whole

community. With so many new families moving into the area, it will be well used. The students of Cathedral school were delighted to be consulted with and are keen to try out their favourite equipment."

Quick Facts:

- * Consultations for redeveloping the site included local residents, the YMCA, the Christ Church Cathedral and students at Christ Church Cathedral and Sir James Douglas Elementary schools.
- * Landscaping will feature 17 new trees, including two maidenhair, one southern catalpa, two Raywood ash, six eastern redbud and six Kwanzan cherry trees.
- * In 2015-16, the B.C. government spent close to \$5 million to provide housing and shelter for residents of the Victoria courthouse encampment.
- * In 2016-17, the Province will spend approximately \$28 million, which includes capital costs for the Central Care Home, as well as the Super 8 hotel. This includes \$373,000 to Portland Hotel Society (PHS) Community Services for support and outreach services at the encampment site between April and August 2016.
- * As of January 2017, more than 260 people from the Victoria courthouse camp are housed at four different housing projects in the region.
- * To date, approximately 80 people from the courthouse encampment have moved into permanent housing.

Learn More:

For more information about the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Society and its campaign to raise funds to create a memorial to Canadian Afghan veterans: <https://vicaafghanistanmemorial.ca/>

Media Contact:

Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

From: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: March 17th - Provincial Government Event Invitation
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:07:00 AM
Attachments: [Invitation MTICS March 17th.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please find enclosed an invitation to attend an event on Friday March 17th 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

We hope to have you there and look forward to your RSVP.

In your response, please keep the subject line intact and **Please send all RSVPs to Tasha Schollen at Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca**



From: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
To: ["editor@vicnews.com"](mailto:editor@vicnews.com)
Subject: New playground at Victoria Courthouse
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:21:00 AM
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground Mar 17_FINAL.pdf

Hi Pamela: here is a link to some photos taken today during the assembly of the new playground at the Victoria Courthouse <https://flic.kr/p/RMUGdc> . I have also attached our news release so you have it handy.

Best, Joanne

Joanne Whittier

Communications Manager

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

office: 250-387-0172 / cell: 250-893-5650

From: Victoria News Editor <editor@vicnews.com>
Date: March 17, 2017 at 8:55:00 AM PDT
To: "Wey, Melody GCPE:EX" <Melody.Wey@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: New playground at Victoria Courthouse

That would be great if you could send photos. We are quite swamped today.

On Mar 16, 2017, at 2:57 PM, Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
<Melody.Wey@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Pamela- thought I'd flag this for you, a team volunteers will be putting together the playground equipment tomorrow for the new playground at the Courthouse. Should be a great event for visuals- equipment includes swings, slides, climbing nets, a toddler play area and a spinning globe. Will someone at Vic News will be able to make the event? I'd be happy to send along photos if you're not able to make it, just let me know.

Thanks, Melody

-----Original Message-----

From: Government of British Columbia
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:54 AM
Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY - Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services - Victoria

March 16, 2017

MEDIA ADVISORY - Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services - Victoria

VICTORIA - Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services Minister Amrik Virk will be joined by a team of volunteers to assemble and install equipment for a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse.



Event Date: Friday, March 17, 2017

Time: 9 a.m.

Location:
Victoria Courthouse property
850 Burdett Ave.
Victoria

Special Instructions: Guests are advised to wear closed-toe shoes or appropriate footwear for a construction site.

Contact:
Joanne Whittier
Communications Manager
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
250 893-5650

Pamela Roth
Victoria News Editor
250-480-3265
818 Broughton St.
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1E4
editor@vicnews.com

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX; Burbee, Jon MTIC:EX; Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX; Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX
Cc: "dave@habitat-systems.com"; "lisa@habitat-systems.com"; Wey, Melody GCPE:EX; Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX; Sovka, David GCPE:EX
Subject: Playground Event Photos
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:25:39 AM

Hello colleagues and our friends at Habitat.

Some photos from today's event at the courthouse. Thanks to everyone for making it a success!

<https://flic.kr/p/RMUGdc>

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

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DUPLICATE

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
To: "stuart.hall@cathedralschool.ca"
Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: BC Gov News - Volunteers spring into action to install new playground
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:22:00 AM

Hi Stuart: here is a link to some photos from this morning's event <https://flic.kr/p/RMUGdc>

Joanne

Joanne Whittier

Communications Manager

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

office: 250-387-0172 / cell: 250-893-5650

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX

Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:27 AM

To: 'stuart.hall@cathedralschool.ca'

Cc: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX

Subject: BC Gov News - Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

Hi Stuart: attached is the news release issued this morning. I will also forward some photos taken as soon as the photographer has sent them over.

Best, Joanne

Joanne Whittier

Communications Manager

Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services

office: 250-387-0172 / cell: 250-893-5650

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca [<mailto:noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 9:18 AM

To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX

Subject: BC Gov News - Volunteers spring into action to install new playground



Volunteers spring into action to install new playground

A team of volunteers and public servants are pitching in to assemble a new playground at the Victoria Courthouse today, creating a fun and interactive play space in the heart of Victoria for people of all ages to enjoy.

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Please do not respond to this message



From: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#); [DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX](#); [Burbee, Jon MTIC:EX](#); [Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX](#); [Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:20:07 PM
Attachments: NR_Volunteer Day for Victoria Playground_Mar 17_FINAL.pdf
QA_Victoria_Courthouse Playground Opening Mar 17_FINAL.docx

Revised QA (costs)

From: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:05 PM
To: DeLarge, Lorne MTIC:EX; Burbee, Jon MTIC:EX; Sykes, Graeme MTIC:EX; Lush, Ryan MTIC:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Finals - Victoria Courthouse Playground
Finals for tomorrow's event at the Victoria Courthouse Playground. The News Release will be handed out after the Minister gives remarks and will be issued via newswire service at 9:20 a.m. Not for further circulation prior. Thx much - Jo
In terms of media expected:

- Canadian Press: Dirk Meissner will be there
- CTV: will be there
- CFAX 1070: interested
- 100.3 the Q: interested
- Times colonist: hoping to have someone at the event
- CHEK TV: will have a camera at the event
- CBC Victoria (Dave Biro): interested



From: [Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Wey, Melody GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media for playground
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:25:00 PM

CTV: Spoke with Scott Cunningham; they will be there.

Shaw TV: Left a message.

CFOX 1070: Spoke with James Gardner; interested.

100.3 the Q: Didn't catch the name of the woman I spoke with, but she said they are interested.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Media for playground

Thanks, Melody.

Oriane if you can reach out to

CFOX

100.3 the Q

Shaw

CTV

I will call Dirk Meissner at CP.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:04 PM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Media for playground

Here's the media outlets I've been able to reach out to so far, Oriane- could you please reach out to the remaining outlets? Thanks, M

Media for playground:

Times colonist: Spoke with Sarah Petrescu, TC is hoping to have someone at the event.

Sarah will be away and they have no photographer available, she suggested we send photos to the news desk in case they need one.

Victoria News: Spoke with Tom Fletcher- he suggested I reach out to Pamela Roth which I've done. I also emailed their photographer Don Denton.

CHEK TV: Spoke with Keith Vass, they will have a camera at the event

CBC Victoria (Dave Biro): Interested

From: [Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Wey, Melody GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Media for playground
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:07:00 PM

You got it.

O.

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Media for playground

Thanks, Melody.

Oriane if you can reach out to

CFOX

100.3 the Q

Shaw

CTV

I will call Dirk Meissner at CP.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:04 PM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Cc: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: Media for playground

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CHEK TV: Spoke with Keith Vass, they will have a camera at the event

CBC Victoria (Dave Biro): Interested

From: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Facey, Nick MTIC:EX](#)
Cc: [La Forge, Jessica MTIC:EX](#); [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Playground photos
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:22:50 AM

Event went really well. We had kids show up as you can see, which was fantastic!

From: Facey, Nick MTIC:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:22 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: La Forge, Jessica MTIC:EX; Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Playground photos
Awesome

Nick Facey,
Chief of Staff
for the Hon. Amrik Virk
Minister of Technology, Innovation & Citizens' Services
Government of BC

On Mar 17, 2017, at 11:17 AM, Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Images from this morning's event are now public in Flickr. Here is the first link to a set of 13:
<https://flic.kr/p/RMUGdc>

Tasha Schollen | Communications Director
Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Phone: 250-387-3134 | Cell: 250-889-1121

From: [Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Playground tweets
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:56:00 AM

Characters: 137

New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today, opening for kids this spring. Thx to the volunteers & donors [ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY](#)

Characters: 126 (had to shorten to fit under 140)

A new playground comes to life today @ Victoria Courthouse as equipment is put together. Opening this spring [ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY](#)

Characters: 136

New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids. Opening this spring [ow.ly/BLP130a0QNY](#)

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Playground tweets

Can you do me a favour and put the owly link into these for me? Merci.

From: Wey, Melody GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Playground tweets

Revised

Characters: 120

New playground in the heart of #yyj being assembled today, opening for kids this spring. Thx to the volunteers & donors [url]

Characters: 123

A new playground comes to life today @ Victoria Courthouse as equipment is put together. Opening to the public this spring [url]

Characters: 119

New playground being assembled today at the Victoria Courthouse w/ equipment picked by local kids. Opening this spring [url]

From: [Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Sovka, David GCPE:EX](#); [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Victoria Courthouse event tomorrow am
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:08:05 PM

Yes,

I will have to set myself a reminder so I don't autopilot straight to the office!

Oriane

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 16, 2017, at 6:06 PM, Whittier, Joanne GCPE:EX <Joanne.Whittier@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>

> Hi both - should have asked you this before you left today but can you both come down to the Victoria Courthouse tomorrow for 830: Minister is speaking at 9 and then will kickoff the assembly of the new playground. Please email me back so I know you have received. Thx! Jo

>

> Sent from my iPhone

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